

## **REMEDATION AND REDEVELOPMENT (RR) NEWS FROM WISCONSIN DNR**

May 18, 2005

### **SAG SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING AWARDED**

The RR Program has awarded supplemental funding to 20 communities that received brownfield Site Assessment Grants (SAGs) in 2004 and 2005. Supplemental funds were available because other communities either declined their round 6 grant awards (2005) or were not able to spend all of their round 5 (2004) grant monies. Round 5 and 6 recipients were notified of the availability of supplemental funding and we received 23 requests totaling \$78,553. We were able to make 20 awards totaling \$54,792.56 on a first-come first-served basis. New funds were limited to 10 percent of the original grant amount and may be used for additional eligible activities at the original project sites. Supplemental awards are handled as amendments to existing grant agreements under NR 168.21, Wis. Adm. Code, which allows increases if projects need additional funding and money is available. These are the last awards that will be made to round 5 and 6 SAG recipients, since all available funds must be encumbered before the end of the 2003-2005 biennium, June 30, 2005. The list of round 5 and 6 supplemental funding is on the web at <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/aw/rr/rbrownfields/sag.htm>.

### **GAO REPORT ON FEDERAL BROWNFIELDS PROGRAM**

The General Accountability Office (GAO) has completed *Brownfield Redevelopment: Stakeholders Report that EPA's Program Helps to Redevelop Sites, but Additional Measures Could Complement Agency Efforts*. This 43-page (not counting that title) report, dated December 2004, includes GAO recommendations that EPA develop additional measures of Brownfield Program achievements. It also recommends that EPA consider stakeholder suggestions for improving and complementing the agency's brownfield efforts as it weighs potential changes to the program. EPA agreed with the report's findings and recommendations and provided technical comments that are addressed in the report. The report is on the web at <http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d0594.pdf>

### **DOES & DON'TS OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

An essay on community involvement at brownfield sites by Lenny Siegel, Director of the Center for Public Environmental Oversight in Mountain View, California, is available on the internet at <http://www.cpeo.org/pubs/Do's&Don'ts.doc>.

### **BROWNFIELDS FEDERAL PROGRAMS GUIDE**

EPA's 62-page Brownfields Federal Programs Guide is on the web at <http://www.lgean.org/documents/bfguide.pdf>. This document was produced in 2004 to help local governments navigate the nearly two dozen federal programs that can help communities assess, cleanup, and reuse brownfields.

### **SAVE THE DATE FOR URBAN GREENSPACE CONFERENCE**

Mark your calendar for an October 19-20 conference in Milwaukee – *Retrofitting Sites in Urban Areas to Enrich City Environments*. This upper midwest conference is co-sponsored by UW-Milwaukee, the City of Milwaukee, the Urban Open Space Foundation, DNR, EPA and others. It is intended to explore trends in redevelopment of urban areas into green spaces. The first day will focus on green retrofit case studies; planning principles; and storm water, air quality and habitat biodiversity in green retrofits. The second day will include a workshop and a tour of the greater Milwaukee area. The conference will be at the UW-Milwaukee School of Continuing

Education Conference Center, 161 West Wisconsin Avenue. For more information please contact Jim Van der Kloot, EPA, at 312-353-3161. For information on the Community Open Space Partnership, please see: <http://www.ouopenspaces.org/>.